

A Proclamation vwith certayne clauses

of diuers Statutes, & other necessary additions, first published

in the xix. yeere of the Queenes Maiesties reigne, and now reuiued
by her highnes commandement to be put in execution, vpon
the penalties in the same contained.



Whereas the Queenes Maiestie hath by sundry former Proclamations notified vnto her louing Subiectes of this Realme, the great inconuenience and mischief that hath growen to the same, by the great excesse of apparell in all states and degrees, but specially in the inferiour sort, contrarie to diuers lawes and Statutes of the Realme, whereof notwithstanding there hath folowed no redresse, or very litle at al: whereby hath appeared no lesse contempt in the offendours, then lacke of ductifull care in those to whome the auctoritie to see due execution of the lawes and orders prouided in that behalfe was committed, which thing might giue her Maiestie iust cause (were it not that of her own gracious disposition she is naturally inclyned rather to clemencie then seueritie, so long as there is any hope of redresse otherwayes) to commit the execution of the sayde lawes, to such persons as would haue proceeded therein with all extremitie. Notwithstanding, her Maiesty meaning to make some further tryall, before she haue recourse to extreme remedies, and finding vpon conference had with the Lordes and others of her pryue counsaile, for the redresse of so greuous and pernicious a soze in this common wealth, the chiefe remedies for the same, to be example, and correction: Her Maiestie therfore for the first, whiche is example, thynketh it very meete and expedient, that the due execution in her Maiesties most honourable house, of such orders and articles as are annexed to this Proclamation, shoulde serue for a paterne throughout the whole Realme, and therefore her Maiestie hath already giuen, and by these presentes doeth giue speciall charge to all those that beare office within the sayde house, to see due obseruation of the same, which she trusteth wil be duely obserued. And further her Maiestie doeth generally charge all noble men, of what estate or degree so euer they be, and all and euery persons of her pryue Counsaile, all Archbishops, and Bishops, and the rest of the Clergie, and all other persons, according to theyr degrees, that they doo respectiuelly see the same speedily and duely executed in their pryuate householde and families: and likewise doeth charge all Maiors and other head officers of Cities and Townes corporate, the Chauncellours of both the Uniuersities, gouernours of Colledges, readers, auncientes & Benchers in euery the Innes of Court and Chauncerie, and generally all that haue any superiortie or gouernement ouer and vpon any societie or feloweship, and eche man in his owne householde for theyr children and seruantes, that they likewise doo cause the sayde orders to be straightly kept by all lawfull meanes that they can.

And for the seconde, which is correction, her Maiestie hath cause to thinke, that if there had bene that seueritie vsed by those to whom the ouersight of the due execution of the lawes prouided in that behalfe was committed, as to them in duetie appertained, both this soze had bene cured, and this Proclamation not needefull to haue bene published at this present.

For the better reformation whereof, her Maiesties will and pleasure is, and so doth straightly charge and commaunde, not onely al Iustices of peace, and euerye of them, to make inquirie of the defaultes and breaking of the sayde orders, at euery their quarter Sessions, and also the Iustices of Assise in ther circuits, and to see such examples made, and due punishmentes extended vpon the offendours, as by the Statutes of this Realme, with such qualifications as in this present Proclamation are conteyned, is prouided in that behalfe: but also, that aswell the sayde Iustices, as all Maiors, Shirifes, and other head officers, in Cities, townes, and Borroughes, shall at any other time, cause all such persons as shall be founde faultie, and transgressing agaynst this proclamation, after the last day of Marche next ensuyng, to be apprehended and brought before them, and finding them culpable, to commit them to prysen, there to remayne without bayle or mayneprise by the space of one moneth, vniellesse the said parties so found culpable, or charged as culpable, shal enter into bonde to appeare before the Iustices at the next quarter Sessions of the peace, or of the Assises to be holden within the same Shyre, Citie, Borrough, Towne Corporate, fraunchise, or libertie, and there to be answerable for al such offences as shalbe proued that they haue committed contrary to the true intent and meaning of this Proclamation.

And whereas it is appointed by the Statutes of this Realme, what every person shall or may weare in their apparell, according to the severall rates of their livings in landes or fees, over and above all charges, and in some cases, of goodes, forasmuch as the lacke of the true and common understanding of every mans estate and living, in sort before expressed, hath been (as it seemeth) heretofore some principal cause of the lacke of the true execution of the sayde Statutes, and that it doeth manifestly appeare, that the same cause will also in time to come worke the like effect, for that there is no convenient meanes to make the rates of mens livings and values, in such sort as is expressed in the severall statutes, to be commonly knowne, to such persons as ought to have speciall care of the execution of the lawes and orders now prescribed. Her Maiestie, being desirous for the great benefite of al her highnesse Subiectes, to have these orders more duely executed then they have bene, and finding that it is very harde for any mans state of living and value, to be truly understood by other persons, if before proove made they shoulde seeme to take knowledge of any other values and rates, then of such as be, or ought to be, for the greatest number expressed in the Subsidie booke, and so for lacke of the knowledge of the true rates & values mentioned in the saide statutes, the due execution of these orders may be defrauded: doeth therfore, for the avoyding of the inconuenience that may ensue, order and commaunde, that all persons, that by this Proclamation be appointed to have care of the execution of these orders, shall for the first calling, arresting, committing, or any other pursuing of any person, for any offence committed against these orders, take knowledge of the rates and values, whereby such persons are sessed in the Subsidie booke, and shall accordingly proceede vpon such knowledge of their values, to impeache such as will in their apparel offend to the contrarie thereof.

Nevertheless, if any person shall finde hym selfe greued to be impeached therewith, and for the iustifying of the wearing of his apparell, shall vpon any arrest or inditement founde agaynst hym, auowe, and offer to prooue his living to be such, and so great, as by the rates expressed in the statutes he may be warranted to weare the apparell for the which he is or shall be impeached: Her Maiesties meaning and pleasure is, that every such person shalbe admitted to make such proove, and thereupon shall receyue iudgement of condemnation, or acquittal, according to the rates expressed in the statutes, and not other wise, without impeaching any officer, or other person, that did arrest, challenge, or proceede agaynst him for such matter, though in the Subsidie booke his values were not sufficient to warrant the values mentioned in the actes of Parliament: Not doubting, but that all such persons, as for the maintenance of their sonde vanitie in apparell, will seeke to make their livings to be knowne and prooued to be greater, then they were before in ssementes of Subsidies taken to be, whereof her Maiestie had the losse, shalbe thought meete by such Commissioners as hereafter shall have auctoritie to rate men vpon the graut of any Subsidie, to be sessed in the Subsidie booke, according to such values as them selues will auowe to have for Defence of wearing of such kinde of apparell, and also will be content to be answerable to the charge of other necessarie seruices for the Realme, as causes shall require.

And because there are many persons, that percase shalbe founde in outwarde apparance more sumptuous in their apparell, then by common intendement the values of their possessions or goodes may warrant, & yet they are not assessed in any Subsidie booke, partly for that they are dwelling in such places of the Realme, as are not chargeable to payments of Subsidies, or that percase they have escaped to be assessed, or otherwise not assessed, whereupon such persons may thinke to continue their disorder, without reformation by the maner here next before prescribed: Her Maiestie, for remedie hereof, commaundeth al maner of officers, that where they shall see any such persons in outwarde apparance so offending, and not having knowledge of their values by booke of Subsidies, as afore is expressed, that neuertheless they shall stay such persons, and challenge them for such pretended offence, and deteyne them, as before by this Proclamation is limited, vntill they shall enter into bond, to make good proove that they can dispende so much in lande and fees, or be so much worth in goodes, as by the lawes they be thereby warranted to weare such apparell: And that no publique officer shalbe at any tyme impeached for such stay, and deteyning of any such person, so apparantly seeming to have offended.

Provided alwayes notwithstanding, that the sayd publique officer shall not at any time, vnder the colour of the execution of this present Proclamation, arrest any person or persons, whom either they themselves shalbe knowne and prooued to malice, or els shalbe procured thereto by others, in respect of some particular quarell, vpon payne of her Maiesties displeasure, and suche punishment as shall be thought meete by the Lordes and others of her Maiesties priue Counsaile.

Given at our Palace of Westminster, the xii. of februarye, in the xxii. yeere of our raigne.

God saue the Queene.

A brieft content of certaine clauses

of the Statutes of King Henrie the eyght, and Queene Marie,
with some moderation thereof, and other prouisions to be obserued,
according to her Maiesties Proclamation
aboue mentioned.

Mens apparell.

Sylke of the colour Purple, cloth of Golde, or Siluer Tissued, nor furre of Sables. } Under the degree of an Earle.

Cloth of Golde, Siluer, or Tinsell Satten.

Sylke, Cloth, Canuas, or any stufte in any apparell, that shalbe myred or imbrodered with any Gold or Siluer. } Under the degree of a Baron.

Woollen clothe made out of the Realme, sauing in Cappes only.

Ueluet { Crymson,
Carnation,
or Blewe.
Scarlet cloth.

Furres of { Blacke Tenets,
or Lusernes.

Imbroderie, or Taylers worke, hauing Golde, or Siluer, or Pearle therin. Nor any Enamell, Huske, Ambergrece, Agate, or any other pretious Stone, in Chayne, Button, or Aglet. Nor any Dublet, Jerkin, or other apparel of any stufte perfumed.

Under the degree of { A Knight of the order, one of the priue Counsell, or a Gentleman of the priue Chamber.

Cownes, Clokes, Capes, or other bypermost garments } of Ueluet.

Furres of Libardes.

Imbroderie, or Taylers worke like to imbroderie, with Sylke, Bugle, or any other like thing.

Nor any Cappes, Hats, Hatbandes, Capbandes, Garters, Bootehole, trymmed with Gold or Siluer. } Under the degree of
Or Sylke neather Stockes.

Shertes, Shertbandes } garnished, mixte, or wrought with Golde.

Ruffes made or wrought out of Englande, commonly called Cutworke.

A Barons sonne, a Knight, a Gentleman in ordinarie office, attending vpon her Maiesties person, or persons that are assessed in the last subsidy books at. CC. li. lands, or fees.

Spurres, Swordes, Rapiers, Skaynes, Woodknyues, or Hangers. Buckles of Gyldes.

Damasked,

under the degree of

A Knight of the order.
One of the priue Counsell.
A Gentleman of the priue chamber.

Gylte,

under the degree of a Knight.

Syluered,

under the degrees and persons before mentioned.

In trappings, or Harnesse for any their Horses.

Studdes, Buckles, or Gylte, Siluered, other garniture, being or Damasked. Nor Stirrops Gylte, Siluered, or Damasked, Nor any beluet in Saddles, or Horse trappings.

except

The degrees before mentioned, and all other Gentlemen onely in the furniture of their great Horses meete for service.

None shal
weare in
his app-
rell

None shal
weare

None shal
weare

{ Ueluct in any kind of hose, or in garding of any garment, or in Slippers, Shooes, or Pantophles.

{ Gowne or hose of { Satten, Damaske, Sylke Chamlet, Taffata, or tuffed Taffata, or hose made of Sylke Lacc.

except

Men that be of the degree, & persons aboue mentioned, and men that may dispende one hundred Markes in lads or fees by yere, & so valued in the subsidy booke, or valued at five hundred pounds in goods, or such person as shall continually keepe a great Horse, furnished for seruice in warre.

furre, whereof the like kinde groweth not within the Queenes Dominions, excepte foynes, gray Tenets, Calaber, Budge, outlandish Hare, or fore.

Note that

{ any { Bonnet, Hatte, Girdle, or Scaberdges of Swordes, or Rapiers } of Ueluct.

{ any { Satten, Damaske, Taffata, or Ehamlet, } in { Jackettes, Coates, Jerkyns, Dublets, or any silk of any kind, in lynynges of hose.

except

The persons & degrees aboue mentioned, & sonne of a knight, or of any man & may dispend three hundred Markes, & the eldest sonne of him that may dispend one hundred pounds by yere, & is so affected, vt sup. And men & may dispend twenti pound lād & fees by yere, vt sup. or valued at one hundred pounds in goods, or a Gentleman attending in ordinarie office vpo any peere of y realme, or Lorde of the Parliamēt, or vpon the wyddow of any peere, or vpo a knight of the order, or vpon any of the priue Counsell.

{ any furre of { foynes, graye Tenettes, or other, whereof the kinde groweth not within the Queenes Dominions.

Note that the Lorde

{ Chaunceloz, Treasurer, President of the Counsel, Priue Seale, and other like great offices of the Realme,

may weare in their apparel, and vpon their Horses, Mules, and Geldinges, as they might haue done before by the prouision of former Statutes of this Realme.

Note that the

Bishops, and other of the Cleargie, Iustices of eyther Benche, Barons of the Exchequer, Master of the Rolles, Sergeantes at Lawe, The Queenes learned Counsell, and the Queenes Whisitions, and al other graduats in the two vniuersities. Masters of the Chauncerie, Apprentices of the Lawe, Maiors, Aldermen, Sheriffes, and al other head officers of Cities & Townes corporate, & Wardens of occupations, during the continuance of their offices. Barons of the fine Portes.

{ may weare in their apparell, and vpon their Mules, and Horses, as they haue done before by the prouisions of former Statutes.

Womens Apparel.

Sylke of the colour Purple.

{ except { such persons of great estate as are expressed in the Statute of 24. Hen. 8.

{ Cloth of { Golde or Siluer tissue, or furre of Sables.

{ vnder the degree of A Countesse.

{ Cloth of { Golde, Syluer, Tynelled Satten. Sylke, or Cloth, mixed or imbrodered w Golde, or Siluer, or Pearle, sauing Sylke mixed with Golde or Siluer, in lining of Caules, Partlettes, or Sleeues.

{ vnder the degree of A Baronesse.

A. iii.

Veluet { Crimson,
Carnation,
Blewe.

furres of { Blache Tenets,
Luscernes.

Imbroderie, with Lace, { Gold, or
or Pacement Lace of { Siluer.

Gownes or Clokes of Veluet,
Satten, or of tulle Tassata.

furres of Libardes.

Imbroderie of any Sylke, nor Tay-
lers woork, like to imbroderie, nor
Caules,
Sleeues,
Ruffes,
Partlets or linings { Pearle,
trymmed with { Spangles, or
{ Purles of gold
or Siluer.

Hattes, { Garnished or
Cappes, { Imbrodered
Hatbandes, { with Gold
Capbandes, { or Siluer.

White woorkes, alias Cutwoorkes,
made beyonde the Seas,
Sylke hose.

Gownes, { Damaske,
Cloakes, { Sylke Grograine,
or other vpper { or Tassata.
garments of

kirtles of { Veluet, or
{ Satten.

furres, whereof the kinde groweth
not within the Queenes Domini-
ons, except foynes, gray Tenettes,
Budge, and woolfe.
Caules of Gold or Siluer, or Caules
myxed with Golde or Syluer,
Veluet in gardes of Gownes.

Gownes of { Tassata,
{ Sylke Grograine,
{ Chamlet,

kirtles of { Satten, or
{ Damaske,

Gentlewomen { Dutchesles,
ordinarilpe at- { Marquesles,
tendaunt vpon { Countesses,

Gentlewomen { Viscountes wyues,
ordinarilpe at- { Barons wyues, the
tendaunt vpon { wyues of knyghtes
of the order, & of the
prync Counsell,

Peticoates of Veluet, nor
any Golde or Syluer vpon
any Peticoate,

Peticoates of Sylke,
Veluet,
Tassata,
Satten, or any
Golde or Syluer in any

Cloake or
Sauegarde,

All degrees aboue mentioned.

The wyues of { Knightes of the order,
& of y prync Counsell.

The Ladyes and
Gentlewomen of { The prync Chamber,
Bedde Chamber, and
Maydes of Honor.

The degrees & persons aboue mentioned.

And wyues of { Barons sonnes, and al-
so the daughters of Ba-
rons, and the wyues of
knightes, or of persons
that may dispend and be
sessed at two hundred
pound landes in the sub-
sidie booke.

Under the degrees and persons aboue mentioned.

The degrees and persons aboue men-
tioned, or the wyues of those that may
dispend one hundred pounce landes
by the yere, and so valued in the
Subsidie booke, and daughters of
any knight, and such as be sworne
the Queenes women, or the wyues
of those that shall keepe continually
one great Horse, with sufficient fur-
niture for her Maiesties seruice in
the warres.

The degrees & persons before mentioned,
the wife of the sonne & heyr apparant of
him y may dispend one hundred poundes,
vt supra, & the wyues of those y may dispend
one hundred Markes by y yere, vt supra.

May weare as y wyues of those that may
dispende one hundred pounce by the yere,
and are valued vt supra.

May weare as y wyues of those that may
dispende one hundred Markes, valued vt
supra. And may also weare their liuerie
Gownes, garded with Veluet.

Under the degree of < A Baronesse.

Under the
degree of

A wyfe of a knight of the Order, or
of the prync Counsell, or any Gen-
tlewoman attending on y Queenes
Maiestie in her Chamber, or the
Maydes of Honor.

No person vnder the degrees aboue specified, shall weare any garde or welt of
Sylke, vpon any Cloake or Sauegarde.

1 In primis, that all officers of her Maiesties household, and other her seruantes in ordinarie, not conteyned within the rates limited and set forth by the Proclamation, shall obserue such orders for their apparel, as shalbe from tyme to tyme set downe in wytyng by the Lord Chamberlaine, the master of the horse, and other her Maiesties principal officers of her household.

2 Item, if any person shal, in contempt & defrauding of this Proclamation, deuise any newe kynde or forme of apparell, and for garnishyng thereof, and thereby shalbe at greater charge then appertayneth to his degree and qualitie, and is here aboue mentioned and entended: Then the sayde person to susteyne the lyke punishment for his contempt, as if the sayde garment or garnishyng had been especially prohibited.

3 Item, that it shalbe lawfull for all Iustices of peace, and Sheriffes of Shires, to weare Veluet or other Silkes in their Coates or Calockes, at such tymes as they shall attende vpon the Queenes Maiesties person, or when they shall resort to places of Iustices and Sessions, and other generall assemblies for the Queenes seruice.

4 Item, that no person vnder the degree of a Baron, a knight of the order, one of the priue Counsel, a gentleman of her Maiesties priue Chamber, or any other gentleman ordinarily attendant vpon her Maiesties person, shall weare any gardes of Veluet vpon any one garment, exceedyng in the whole in Veluet the breadyth of sixe inches.

5 Item, that it shalbe lawfull for the Lordes of the Parliament, to giue for their lynceries, Coates, or Cloakes, garded with Veluet or any other Silke, the gardes in the whole not exceedyng in breadyth aboue foure inches.

6 Item, that it shalbe lawfull for the sonnes of those that may dispende .xl. l. by the yeere, being so rated at the last Subsidie, and for wardes whose land is .xl. l. by the yeere, to weare Sarcenet in the lynyng of their Hose, Doublets, Hattes, or Cappes.

7 Item, that it shalbe lawfull to weare in lynceries, Silke Buttons, and Tassats, Brograyne, Veluet, or other Silke in the facing of Coates, as is commonly vsed.

8 Item, that all inferior persons, vnder the degrees aboue specified, not otherwyse prouided for, or limited by this Proclamation, shall consourne them selues in their apparel, in all thynges according to the Statute made & prouided in anno. 24. Henrici. 8. and in anno. 1. 2. Philippi & Marie. Or els to susteyne such punishment as by the sayd Statute is prouided.

9 Item, that all Apprentices at the lawe, and vtter barristers of the Innes of Court, and al Marchauntes of any societie, and al that keepe household in Citie or Towne, and such as may dispende .xx. l. by the yeere, may weare a welt of Veluet in their Cownes, Jackets, or coates.

That no person shalbe impeached for wearyng of any cloth made within the Realme, so long as he shal obserue the order and rates by this present Proclamation limited. But if any person shall willingly breake the tenor and effect of this Proclamation, then her highnes pleasure is, that euery such offender shall haue the penalties of the lawes extended agaynst them to the vttermost, without any toleration or fauour.

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*A Commandement giuen by the Queenes most excellent Maiestie,
the twelfth of Februarie, and xxii. of her Highnesse Reigne, and
declared by the Lord Chauncelor of Englande, and other the
Lords of her Maiesties most honourable priue Counsel in the
Starre Chamber, concerning clokes and ruffes of excessiue length
and depth.*

IT is also to be vnderstood, that the said xii. day of Februarie, in this present yeere 1579. by the Queenes Maiesties expresse commaundement, it was declared and published by the lord Chauncelor, and other the Lords of her Maiesties Councell in the Starre Chamber, that her Maiesties pleasure was, by aduice of her said Councell, that from the one & twentieth of this moneth, no person shal vse or weare such excessiue long clokes, being in common sight monstrous, as nowe of late are begonne to be vsed, and before two yeeres past hath not bene vsed in this Realme. Neyther also should any person vse or weare such great and excessiue ruffes in or about the vppermost part of their neckes, as had not bene vsed before two yeeres past, but that all persons, should in modest and comely sort leaue off such fond disguised and monstrous maner of attyring them selues, as both was vnsupportable for charges, and vndecent to be worne.

And this her Maiestie commanded to be obserued, vpon paine of her high indignation, and the paines thereto due, and willed all officers to see to the reformation and redresse thereof, to the punishment of any offending in these cases, as persons wilfully disobeying or contemning her Maiesties commandement.

Geuen the xxii. yeere of her Highnesse reigne, as is before expressed.

God saue the Queene.

Imprinted at London by Christopher

*Barker, Printer to the Queenes most excellent
Maiestie.*

*Cum priuilegio Regie
Maiestatis.*

Anno Dom. 1579.

By the Queene.

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A branche of a Proclamation published the twelfth day of Februarie, in the eight yeere of the Queenes Maiesties reigne, concerning Swordes, Daggers, Rapiers, and Bucklers: commaunded by her highnesse to be put in execution, and of all her louing subiects to be obeyed and kept, vpon paine of her Maiesties high indignation, and the penaltie in the same conteyned.

The branche or clause of the saide Proclamation.

Item, her Maiestie ordereth and also commandeth, that no person shall weare any Sworde, Rapier, or such like Weapon, that shall passe the length of one yarde and halfe a quarter of the blade, at the vttermost: nor any Dagger aboue the length of xii. ynches in blade at the most: nor any Buckler with any point or pike aboue two ynches in length. And if any Cutler, or other Artificer, shall sell, make, or keepe in his house any Sworde, Rapier, Dagger, Buckler, or such like, contrary thereunto, the same to be imprisoned, and to make fine at the Queenes Maiesties pleasure, and the Weapon to be forfayted. And if any such person shall offende a seconde time, then the same to be banished from the place and Towne of his dwelling.

Given at our Pallace of Westminster, the twelfth day of Februarie, in the two and twentieth yeere of our reigne.

God saue the Queene.

Imprinted at London by Christopher

*Barker, Printer to the Queenes most excellent
Maiestie.*

Anno Dom. 1579.